

RECEIVED
CITY CLERK
C & C OF HONOLULU

2016 OCT -6 AM 9:28

Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawai'i

P.O. Box 25284 · Honolulu · Hawai'i · 96825

(808) 393 2168 · www.b-e-a-c-h.org

Bill 59
R

DATE: 5th October, 2016

TO: Council Chair Martin, Vice-Chair Anderson and Honolulu City Council Members

FROM: Dean Otsuki, Co-Founder, Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawai'i

RE: **TESTIMONY FOR BILL 59 (COMMENTS ONLY)**

Relating to use of bags provided to customers.

Council meeting on Wednesday 5th October, 2016 at 10AM.

Aloha Council Chair Martin, Vice-Chair Anderson and Honolulu City Council Members,

I am testifying on behalf of Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawai'i (B.E.A.C.H.) regarding Bill 59 relating to the use of shopping bags to customers. While I appreciate Councilmember Elefante's effort to eliminate compostable bags to customers, I feel that the bill needs to be stronger and amended to ban all plastic checkout bags (no matter how thick) including plastic checkout bags for take-out food and drinks.

Everyday I see these thick plastic shopping bags and plastic bags for food and drinks on our roadways, parks and beaches most likely some of them ending up in the ocean harming marine life.

A ban on all plastic checkout bags including ones for food and drinks is the most practical way to get these bags out of our environment. No plastic bag options forces people to change their habits to bring their own bags versus enabling them to rely on the shops to provide them with plastic bags.

Please amend Bill 59 to eliminate all plastic checkout bags including ones for food and drink.

Thank you,



Dean Otsuki



10

2006 - 2016

*Celebrating a decade of volunteer
service and environmental action*

MISC. COM. 2493

COUNCIL